

people lift themselves up; and those things that will create opportunity for people.

We always said in this country that education was the best way to lift yourself out of poverty. What we are doing here in this Congress right now, we are cutting Pell Grants. We are cutting early childhood education. You can't do those things and then leave it up to the States because, as you so adequately addressed a few minutes ago, it is a competition between the States.

I had the privilege to go with my Governor before over to Germany to visit Thyssenkrupp to offer them incentives so they would come to Louisiana as opposed to going to Alabama. Well, we need a referee when things like that are going on. We need somebody who can coordinate and say some competition between the States is good, but it is our role to make sure that all Americans are treated fairly and that everybody has the opportunity to succeed.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. I think the lesson comes particularly from African American history, which I think is appropriate. We don't talk about it up here enough. I'm not ashamed or afraid to come and talk about it.

When African Americans were fighting against slavery and fighting from 1619 to 1865, the passage of the 13th Amendment, the legal argument that was used to justify—to justify—why slavery needed to continue was the 10th Amendment. States' rights.

Virginia said, You don't have a right, Federal Government, to come here and tell us what to do. Georgia said, you don't have a right, Federal Government, to come here and free slaves. You don't have a right, Federal Government, to come into Alabama and tell us what to do. You don't have a right, Federal Government, to come to North Carolina and tell us what to do.

□ 1850

And here we are in 2011 with an element of the Congress of the United States and a tea party outside of the Congress of the United States telling us: Federal Government, you don't have a right to come into our State and give somebody health care. You don't have a right to come into our State and end the foreclosure crisis. You don't have a right to come into our State and provide a higher quality of life for all Americans.

Oh, yes, but you do have a right to give some people a tax break. You do have a right to help these corporations. You do have a right to bail out Wall Street, but you don't have a right to bail out the individual.

So I think, Mr. RICHMOND, that we have a unique perspective around the 10th Amendment that we need to bring into this debate. I'm hoping the Black Caucus joins us in that conversation.

But let me ask you, Mr. RICHMOND. In Louisiana, if offered an opportunity by this government to receive more resources to fix schools, to fix levees, to

build infrastructure, would your State send the money back?

Mr. RICHMOND. Absolutely not. Not only would my State take it, but there's a new report out by a conservative group that shows that Louisiana receives more aid than every other State except one and for the first time our State budget has more Federal dollars in it than State dollars.

So I want to be clear about what you hear about States' rights. And this is not just in Louisiana. Right now 27 States have more Federal money in their budgets than they do their own State dollars. So they're not turning down State assistance when it comes to providing those things.

And I just want to tell you that it's so convenient, and the 10th Amendment couldn't address everything, and the Constitution could not address everything at the time, and we can't pretend that it did. What we have the responsibility to do, as Members of this Congress, is to make sure we apply common sense to what the Founders were doing.

You see no mention of the Internet in the Constitution. That's our road to now deal with it. So now that we talk about a complex program to give every American the basic right to health care, you are not going to see that in the Constitution. But what you see in the Constitution and what the overriding theme is, is a more perfect Union. And this government has the responsibility to do that.

So when we start talking about energy assistance to our seniors who can't afford it, you will not see those things in the Constitution. But when you apply common sense, which is what we were elected to do, to a living, breathing document, it would follow that we have not only the right but we have the responsibility and the obligation to do those things for the States.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. RICHMOND, I understand that my time is about to expire.

But our men and women who are fighting in Afghanistan and fighting in Iraq, they're fighting to defend that flag. They're fighting to build a more perfect Union. It's shameful that Members of this Congress aren't fighting for that flag, aren't fighting for a more perfect Union, aren't fighting to expand opportunities for our men and women when they return from Afghanistan and Iraq.

There is nothing more tragic in this current hour, Mr. Speaker, than the idea that our men and women could come home to unemployment, could come home without health care, could come home to homes that are in foreclosure, Mr. Speaker. The 112th Congress needs to do something about that.

I thank the gentleman from Louisiana for participating in this Special Order.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today and the balance of the week on account of surgery.

#### BILL PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House reports that on April 6, 2011 she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill.

H.R. 4. To repeal the expansion of information reporting requirements for payments of \$600 or more to corporations, and for other purposes.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 6 o'clock and 54 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, April 8, 2011, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1106. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Removal of the List of Ports of Embarkation and Export Inspection Facilities From the Regulations [Docket No.: APHIS-2009-0078] (RIN: 0579-AD25) received April 4, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1107. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Dichloromid; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2005-0477; FRL-8866-2] received March 16, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1108. A letter from the Deputy Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's annual Developing Countries Combined Exercise Program report of expenditures for Fiscal Year 2010, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2010; to the Committee on Armed Services.

1109. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Repeal of Restriction on Ballistic Missile Defense Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation (DFARS Case 2011-D026) (RIN: 0750-AH18) received March 17, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

1110. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's March 2011 Semi-Annual Report providing the progress toward destruction of the U.S. stockpile of lethal chemical agents and munitions by the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) deadline of April 29, 2012, but not later than December 31, 2017; to the Committee on Armed Services.

1111. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, transmitting the Council's Annual Report for 2010; to the Committee on Financial Services.